

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration in view of the here with presented amendment and remarks is respectfully requested.

The disclosure is objected to because of some alleged informalities. A new specification with headings and not containing any new matter is enclosed. Applicant addresses the Examiner's questions as follows.

The way the peg (1) is attached to the rack (10) is of minor importance in the context of the invention. It can be attached in any conventional manner. Here is disclosed an attachment with a push-fitting portion (6), which one can see of fig. 1 is cylindrical, and a stop (7).

Again, the invention relates to the fixation of the peg (1) of a rack (10) to the sleeve (30) of an inertial unit (11) and the structural features thereof. The way the peg (1) is made interdependent with the rack (10) it belongs to can be obtained in any known manner of the related art.

Concerning the inertial unit

The inertial unit (11) can be any of the inertial units well known in the art. An inertial unit need not be described in details, since it is a conventional apparatus.

Anyway, the applicant describes a few features of an inertial unit in page 1 to 3 of the specification. Indeed, the inertial unit (11) is for use in an aircraft (p. 1, line 19), where it has to be subjected to the same movements as the craft (p. 1, lines 20-22) in order to measure these movements (p. 3, lines 8-11); in that purpose, it comprises inertial sensors which, in real time, measure acceleration and rotation data which are then compiled in a mathematical model in order to deduce from this the position of the aircraft in the space (p. 3, lines 12-17).

It is obvious that the inertial unit (11) described with reference to the drawings is of the same general type as the one disclosed in page 1 to 3.

Concerning the sleeve

As disclosed in the Webster's Third New International Dictionary, a sleeve is a "tubular part designed to fit over another part", is this smaller over a peg (1). This definition seems quite appropriate for this element. The term "bore" could have been used, but the term sleeve seemed more accurate since it refers not only to the tubular shape of the element, but also to its function of fitting over another part.

In the third paragraph of page 3, applicants believe the following:

Regarding the first question:

The clearance compensation results from the combination of the diameter of the cylindrical part (4), which is greater than that of the sleeve (30), and the flexing of the two elastic half-portions (1', 1''); the flexing indeed results from the bearing of the peg (1) on the edge of the sleeve (30), which is due to the bigger diameter of the cylindrical part (4) (p. 8, line 16-p. 9, line 2).

The posterior part (5) of the fixing portion (3) does not compensate for the clearance because of its frustoconical shape, with the vertex of the cone of the frustoconical posterior part (5) facing in the opposite direction to that of the anterior portion (2) (p. 6, lines 4-7), which means that its diameter is reduced in that direction. With a reduced diameter, it is obvious that one of the elements to be combined to obtain the clearance compensation (namely, a bigger diameter than that of the sleeve (30) and a slot (8)) fails; in consequence, the posterior part (5) does not compensate for the clearance.

For the second question:

In consequence, the posterior part (5) does not compensate for the clearance means here that this posterior part (5) is fitted, at least partly, with clearance within the sleeve (30).

For the third question:

The fact of not compensating the clearance does not mean that the posterior part (5) is not slotted and thus does not flex. The slot is axially made “at least as far as the start of the frustoconical posterior part (5)” (p. 6, lines 13-14), which means it can be longer and belong also to this part (5). In this occurrence, we can see on fig. 1 that the posterior part (5) is also slotted.

For the fourth question:

The Examiner is right, and that is why the posterior part (5) is slotted.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of this objection is requested.

CLAIM REJECTIONS UNDER 35 USC §112

Claims 1-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112 as failing to comply with the written description requirement and as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter.

For Claim 1, the Examiner asks where the clearance is. The clearance is introduced in the preamble of claim 1, where it is cited “an anterior portion (2) to be introduced with clearance into the sleeve (30)”.

This definition of the clearance is very clear and sufficient in claim 1, all the more since it is supported in the description, where the anterior portion (2) is defined as a frustoconical introduction portion (p. 6, lines 1-2). This type of frustoconical introduction portion, with a clearance between the peg and the sleeve obtained by the frustoconical shape, is well known in the art and referred to in the description of the background of the invention (p. 2, lines 15-19).

Compensating for the clearance, which we have seen is a well defined expression, means that the peg (1), which is introduced with clearance and then has a posterior fixing part (3), is arranged so that the posterior fixing part (3) compensates for the clearance, which means the posterior fixing part (3) fixed the peg (1) to the sleeve (30) with no clearance.

This functional is all the more clear at the reading of the presentation of the problem solved by the invention (p. 2, line 9 – p. 3, line 26).

Furthermore, it seems that the examiner, asking his fourth question of the third paragraph of page 3, has understood very well the function of the posterior fixing part (3).

The clearance compensation mechanism, and the fact that a portion compensates for it and another not, have been fully discussed above.

A quick look on the references cited shows that none of them relates to the assembly of a peg (1) and a sleeve (30) of a component (11) and of a support (10).

CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the present claims are in condition for allowance. Early and favorable action is earnestly solicited.

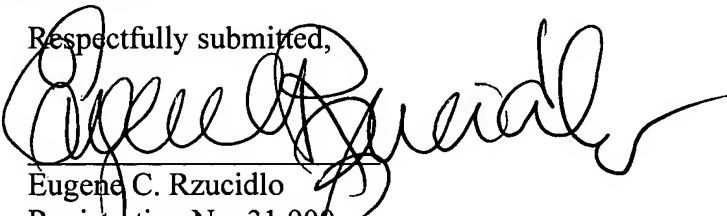
AUTHORIZATION

If the Examiner believes that issues may be resolved by telephone interview, the Examiner is respectfully urged to telephone the undersigned at (212) 801-2146. The undersigned may also be contacted by e-mail at ecr@gtlaw.com.

No additional fee is believed to be necessary. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required for this amendment, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1561.

In the event that an extension of time is required, or which may be required in addition to that requested in a petition for an extension of time, the Commissioner is requested to grant a petition for that extension of time which is required to make this response timely and is hereby authorized to charge any fee for such an extension of time or credit any overpayment for an extension of time to Deposit Account No. 50-1561.

Dated: August 11, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

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